DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 037 185 08 HE 001 447

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TITLE Investigation of the Feasibility of Establishing

Health Technology Demonstration Centers. Final

Report.

INSTITUTION National Health Council, New York, N. Y.

SPONS AGENCY Office of Education (DHEW), Washington, D.C. Bureau

of Research.

BUREAU NO BR-9-8015
PUB DATE Jan 70

GRANT OEG-0-9-428015-3711

NOTE 63p.

EDRS PRICE EDRS Price MF-\$0.50 HC-\$3.25

DESCRIPTORS *Health Occupations, Health Personnel, *Health Programs, *Health Services, *Higher Education,

Interagency Cooperation, *Networks

ABSTRACT

This investigation studied the feasibility of establishing a network of centers to demonstrate model programs in the health technologies. It was necessary to: 1) identify colleges with multiple health-related programs; 2) identify campus health-related programs which have recognizable strengths; 3) further define "recognizable strengths" through site visits to a sample of these programs; 4) designate health technician occupational areas for which few or no satisfactory programs are now available; and 5) utilize the data gathered to reach conclusions about a feasible plan which would assist two-year colleges seeking to initiate or improve health technician programs. A compilation of the results from reporting colleges showed great variation in the number and types of health-related programs available within each of 10 national regions. However, the findings revealed that a good potential network of demonstration centers exist. For best results, a mechanism will be required that will tie present innovative elements into a dissemination system. This system should provide for the sharing of scarce research personnel, help health practitioner associations extend their services, and provide an instrument for disseminating information and sharing contributions to program development. (DS)



BR 9-8015-PA 08

Final Report

Project No. 9-8015
Grant No. OEG-0-9-428015-3711

INVESTIGATION OF THE FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING HEALTH TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATION CENTERS

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January 1970

The research reported herein was performed pursuant to a grant with the Office of Education, U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. Contractors undertaking such projects under Government sponsorship are encouraged to express freely their professional judgment in the conduct of the project. Points of view or opinions stated do not, therefore, necessarily represent official Office of Education position or policy.

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SUMMARY

This investigation studied the feasibility of establishing a network of demonstration centers with model programs in the health technologies. Goal attainment proceeded through the resolution of five subproblems:

- 1. The first problem was to identify colleges with multiple health-related programs and check existing "network" strengths and weaknesses.
- 2. The second problem was to identify health-related programs which had recognizable strengths.
- 3. The third problem was to further define "recognizable strengths" through site visits to a sample of the programs identified above. A second portion of this problem was to summarize site visits through the following: (a) categorization of college programs and practices according to their readiness for dissemination of information to other colleges, and (b) collation of college needs which would have to be met in order to facilitate their performance of a dissemination function.
- 4. The fourth problem was to designate needed health technician occupational areas for which few or no satisfactory programs are now available.
- 5. The fifth problem was to utilize the data gathered to reach conclusions about a feasible plan which would assist two year colleges seeking to initiate or improve health technician programs.

The compilation of colleges reporting multiple health programs revealed great variation in the number and types of health related programs available within each Public Health Region. To identify health programs with recognizable strengths, recommendations were solicited through an opinionnaire distributed to a variety of sources. Those contacted were asked to name junior colleges or other two year institutions in their geographical area which they believed were doing an outstanding job of preparing health technicians. Site visits were made to a sample of recommended programs. The most general impression from the site visits was the unevenness of the health-related programs in the sense that they are in all stages of development. Each college had some programs which had been in existence for some time, some programs which had been planned but not yet put into operation, and other programs still on the drawing boards. Without exception, the colleges were interested in expanding their health offerings and reported many and varied community pressures to do so. There was also a consistent anxiety to improve programs through better recruitment, improved teaching, better clinical arrangements, or better means cf evaluating student progress.



The report classified health practitioner associations according to their current activities which might contribute to any network of health-related demonstration programs in junior or community colleges.

Findings of the study were:

- 1. Colleges or programs currently performing a demonstration function need minimal financial help to improve their dissemination activities. To relieve the growing burden of demonstration, extra secretarial assistance and reimbursement for coordination responsibilities are necessary or programs will suffer. Research assistance to help plan, document and evaluate different patterns of demonstration and dissemination would appear to be an economic use of a scarce resource.
- 2. Colleges which have proposed relatively innovative programs or practices have often been hampered by lack of faculty time, delays in obtaining consultation from health practitioner associations, and lack of money to design ideas for trial. In this instance more extensive assistance would need to be given before dissemination is practicable. In some cases help is necessary in preparing grant requests and in contacting the most logical funding source.
- 3. It is a reasonable hypothesis that colleges with health-related programs recommended by the process utilized in this study would have some programs already serving a demonstration function, more which could move to this status readily with minimal assistance, and other program areas to which much had already been contributed but which needed greater input before the colleges could be helpful to program development in other institutions.
- 4. Because national health practitioner associations vary in staffing potential, state and regional organizational capabilities and past experience in this area, every device to help them contact a more limited number of "key" colleges would be welcomed and should be helpful in stepping up the contribution to two year collegiate health programs needed to overcome health personnel shortages.

In summary, a good potential network of demonstration centers exists. For maximal results it requires a mechanism which could tie present innovative elements into a <u>dissemination system</u>. Such a system would need to provide for controlled and coordinated input to colleges and to health practitioner associations. The system should (1) provide for sharing scarce research personnel, (2) seek to help health practitioner associations extend their available services, and at the same time (3) provide an instrumentation for disseminating information and sharing contributions to program development.



INTRODUCTION

Under Grant Number OEG-0-9-428015-3711 (085) Office of Education Bureau of Research Number 9-8015, the National Health Council and the American Association of Junior Colleges assumed joint responsibility for establishing the feasibility of a network of demonstration centers with model programs in the health technologies. The feasibility study had two goals: (1) to select criteria for the definition of model programs and to see whether or not there is a range of junior college settings which either (a) meet those criteria, or (b) nearly satisfy all requirements and would be amenable to study and to alteration of program(s) to better meet the criteria, and (2) to designate those areas of health care for which few or no satisfactory programs are now available.

The task force for the feasibility project consisted of an Advisory Committee (see Appendix A) of four members appointed by the American Association of Junior Colleges, four members appointed by the National Health Council, and an appointed chairman agreed upon by both the Association and the Council. In addition, a staff member from the Association and a staff member from the Council accepted designated responsibilities for the project. A full-time project coordinator and a part-time secretarial assistant completed the staffing of the project. The coordinator functioned on a full-time basis during the months of June, July, and August, 1969, and on a partial basis during May, 1969, and from September 1, 1969, to the present time.

Further definition of the Feasibility Project was accomplished by the Advisory Committee which visualized goal attainment as proceeding through the resolution of five subproblems:

- 1. The first problem was to identify colleges with multiple health-related programs and check existing "network" strengths and weaknesses.
- 2. The second problem was to identify health-related programs which had recognizable strengths.
- 3. The third problem was to further define "recognizable strengths" through site visits to a sample of the programs identified above. A second portion of this problem was to summarize site visits through the following: (a) categorization of college programs and practices according to their readiness for dissemination of information to other colleges, and (b) collation of college needs which would have to be met in order to facilitate their performance of a dissemination function.
- 4. The fourth problem was to designate needed health technician occupational areas for which few or no satisfactory programs are now available.



5. The fifth problem was to utilize the data gathered to reach conclusions about a feasible plan which would assist two year colleges seeking to initiate or improve health technician programs.

PROCEDURE

Identification of Colleges with Multiple Health Programs

To identify the existing network of health technology programs, the American Association of Junior Colleges requested information from its membership about health related programs and about numbers of students enrolled. Copies of data sheets from colleges reporting three or more health technology programs were made available to this project. Colleges with multiple health programs were classified by the Public Health Region within which they were located. (See Appendix B.) Each region was scanned, its program offerings summarized and presented to the Advisory Committee.

Identification of Health Programs with Recognizable Strengths

To identify health-related programs or aspects of programs with special strengths, the Advisory Committee was forced to deal with the issue of criteria. At the first meeting of the Advisory Committee the concept of "mödel" programs was modified to mean "recommended" programs. As the committee attempted to establish criteria which could be applied within a relatively short period of time to identify good health technology programs they suggested that these would be programs where some of the essentials (as described in the <u>Guide to Health Technology Program Planning</u>) were accomplished in a superior manner. The following items were agreed upon as information which could be of assistance in identifying "good" programs:

- 1. Answers to the question, "What happens to those who finish the program?"
- 2. College use of established checkpoints of accrediting agencies.
- 3. Data on the involvement of health facility administrators and health practitioner associations in junior college programs.
- 4. Subjective judgments of such things as: general faculty morale, student involvement, attrition, general spirit of



cooperation of various divisions of the college, interest in occupational programs, etc.

5. Flexibility in relation to new trends, awareness of change, acceptance of the need for constant reappraisal of program.

It was clear to the members of the committee that the above information would not be available for every existing program within the allotted time limits. Therefore, the committee accepted several assumptions:

- 1. That there are knowledgeable people on the Advisory Committee, in the program approving agencies, in state supervisory positions, and various consultants who have had an opportunity to view and deal with a widé range of these programs. Their subjective judgments are, accordingly, of value--particularly if they can begin to verbalize the reasons for their selection of individual programs as ones which have good elements of demonstration.
- 2. That the administrative leadership of health technology programs in individual colleges has some grasp of the strengths and weaknesses of its programs. This was thought to be a justifiable assumption since this assessment was to be combined with that of outside observers who knew the programs from varying points of contact.

Accordingly, information concerning the identification of "good" programs was sought from the following sources:

- 1. Committee members and staff of the project submitted written recommendations following the June 1969 meeting of the Advisory Committee.
- 2. Superintendents for Junior College Development or those with comparable positions in the approximately thirty-eight states with designated positions of this type were contacted by individual letters from the National Health Council. They submitted program recommendations and program information.
- 3. Health practitioner associations, selected voluntary health associations, and associations representing health agency administrators were invited to the National Health Council headquarters for a meeting on August 8, 1969. Recommendations were either solicited at earlier interviews or were submitted in writing following the invitational meeting.
- 4. The National Health Council career consultant contacted Health Career Program Directors from state and/or local health councils and asked each to recommend programs.



As the recommendations were received they were recorded by placing a check for each recommendation before schools reporting to the AAJC query prior to August 20, 1969, or by adding the college to the list if its programs were recommended but the college had not reported by the cutoff date. (See Appendix B.)

Further Definition of Recognizable Strengths

In order to more fully investigate the meaning of "recommendation," site visits were made to a selected sample of those schools which had two or more recommendations. The site visit schedule (Appendix C) was based on the availability of college faculty, with an attempt to have some representation from as many regions as possible. There were, however, severe limits on both time and finances which helped to shape the schedule. There was particular avoidance of colleges represented on the Advisory Committee since information about them was readily available to aid committee deliberations. An effort was also made to canvass at least one region with some attempt at inclusiveness (Region IV received most emphasis) in order to more adequately view the range of program practices.

Summarization of data gained from site visits was made through categorizing college programs and practices according to their readiness for dissemination of program principles and practices to other colleges. The categorization utilized was suggested by the Guba-Clark schema of the diffusion process* described in Theoretical Paper #18, "An Evaluation of the Model for Educational Improvement as an Analytical Tool for Describing the Change Process" (March, 1969, Wisconsin Research and Development Center for Cognitive Learning). (See Appendix D for schema.) The diffusion process refers to the distribution of an idea from its invention source to the point of adoption. As Guba and Clark use the term "adoption" it is close to "institutionalization," meaning that the former innovation has become an accepted part of the institution and its removal would affect the total institution. In using this model, the assumption is made that it would be desirable for programs and practices to be "institutionalized" in one setting before they are used as démonstrations. In this instance, the concern was for an enumeration of programs or practices in the health technician education sphere which were at various stages of readiness to be communicated to other colleges for use or for adaptation and use. The stages adopted as categories after examination of programs at the selected sites were as follows:

1. Those institutions currently performing a demonstration function for health-related programs.



^{*}David L. Clark and Egon G. Guba, "Understanding Social Change," SEC Newsletter, 1 (1965), 1-4.

- 2. Those institutions where innovative health-related programs have been installed but are not yet institutionalized.
- 3. Locations where there was evidence of innovativeness but where the institutions (colleges) were so new that it was difficult to tell what practices might eventually become institutionalized.
- 4. Institutions where innovative programs or aspects of programs had been proposed but were not yet engineered.
- 5. Programs which had been institutionalized despite college dissatisfaction with the program design.

The enumeration of examples which will be included in the results section of this report should clarify the meaning of each of these stages.

Notes from the site visits were also examined to prepare a collation of college needs which would have to be met in order to facilitate dissemination of the innovative programs and/or practices.

Designation of Health Technician Areas with Few or No Available Programs

To designate needed health technician occupational areas for which few or no satisfactory programs are now available, data gathered from the prior steps of the investigation were compared with data gathered through consultation with health practitioner associations. These associations and others with a known "stake" in technical assistance for the health field were invited to a conference at National Health Council headquarters in New York City. The purpose of the conference was to gain their ideas of the most needed and valuable demonstrations of educational programs. Health practitioner associations summarized the activities of their organizations during the past two year period, and then submitted a written summary of the statements they had shared at the meeting. (See Appendix E for letter of invitation, for recommendations of the conference, and for list of participants.)

Drawing Conclusions

In order to reach conclusions about a feasible plan which would facilitate the creation of sound programs for health technicians in two year colleges, the information sought in the above four steps was made available to the Advisory Committee at its meeting on September 11-12 in Cleveland, Ohio. The conclusions reported here are an elaboration of their conclusions after weighing the evidence presented.



RESULTS

Identification of Colleges with Multiple Health Programs

The compilation of colleges reporting multiple health programs revealed great variation in the number and types of health related programs available within each Public Health Région. (See Appendix B.) Often one institution within a region presented a relatively comprehensive selection of programs even though few other programs were reported from that region (Regions 1 and 7). In other regions, a number of institutions had developed a multiplicity of health programs (Regions 2, 4, 5, and 9). Within other regions most health related programs had been confined to nursing or to one of the dental areas with relatively few examples of programs in other categories (Regions 6, 8, and 10). A summary of programs follows.

Région I. Unusual programs with strong enrollments. Programs scattered throughout region. Multiple programs: Springfield, Massachusetts; consortium through Yale, including Quinnipiac. University tie-in--University of Vermont.

Region II. Almost anything in every stage of development could be illustrated within this region: rural, inner-city, multiple programs in various locations, four unusual programs which were previously pilotted and state or foundation supported, developing programs throughout the state of New Jersey.

Regic III. Demonstration centers could evolve here, but there are many "new" programs: a "developing" college with combination rural-city students (Northampton Community College, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania); junior college hospital planning (Essex Community College near Baltimore, Maryland); inner-city approaches (Community College of Philadelphia and Community College of Baltimore); LPN to AD nursing experimentation possible through Harrisburg. Access to state cooperation through Dr. Fibel.

Region IV. Demonstration possibilities good, even though combination of much and little in this region: Multiple programs (Miami-Dăde); "development" of multiple programs (Birmingham, Alabama); programs experienced in demonstration function (Manatee Junior College, Bradenton, Florida, and Palm Beach Junior College, Lake Worth, Florida).

Region V. Almost any pattern could be demonstrated. Four centers with multiple programs (St. Mary's, Minneapolis, Minnesota; Ferris State College, Big Rapids, Michigan; Chicago City College; Cuyahoga College, Cleveland, Ohio). Technical colleges in Wisconsin should somehow be involved.



Region VI. Programs relatively scant. Multiple programs developing at El Centro in Dallas, Texas, under capable leadership.

Region VII. Scattered programs. Best start on multiple programs
--St. Louis-St. Louis County); LPN programs stressed in Iowa.

Region VIII. Few multiple programs. Single programs scattered. Certainly one rural demonstration in this region is needed.

Region IX. Many special programs represented and many opportunities for multiple programs (City College of San Francisco, and Maricopa County Junior College, Phoenix, Arizona).

Region X. Heavy concentration of colleges in the Seattle area --some with special programs. Area planning of health technology programs is a possible demonstration.

Identification of Health Programs with Recognizable Strengths

Recommendations were solicited through an opinionnaire distributed to a variety of sources. Those contacted were asked to name junior colleges or other two year institutions in their geographical area which they believed were doing an outstanding job of preparing health technicians. Health practitioner associations, the American Hospital Association and the American Association of Junior Colleges were not restricted in the area from which they were to draw their recommendations. Recommendations were received from all Advisory Committee members who represented the two year colleges, from the American Association of Junior Colleges, and from 11 of the 17 junior college consultants contacted through AAJC. All of the states were contacted, with 27 states replying. However, Rhode Island had only one institution which provided technician level programs, while Nebraska, Oklahoma, Georgia, Maine, New Hampshire, Alaska, and Puerto Rico replied that they either had no such programs or that programs had not been in existence for a sufficient period of time to be labeled outstanding. Florida preferred to name no programs, and states like Massachusetts sent voluminous material on programs and essentially named all of the programs in their state. Several of the directors reported that they had not been in office for a sufficient period of time to make any recommendations. Other state level personnel reported criteria similar to those named by the Advisory Committee. It should be clarified that while all states were contacted, there are approximately thirty-eight states which now have individuals whose specific duties involve junior colleges. Health Career program directors were contacted by the National Health Council. Recommendations were received from 24 of 43 states which were contacted. The American Occupational Therapy Association, the American Optometric Association, the American Dietetic Association, the American Association of Medical Record Librarians,



the National Committee on Careers in Medical Technology, the National League for Nursing, the American Dental Association, the American Medical Association, the American Osteopathic Association, the American Society of Medical Technologists all made some recommendations, varying from one by the American Osteopathic Association to forty-four by the National League for Nursing consultants. The American Physical Therapy Association furnished the names of programs in existence, but preferred to make no recommendations since all were new programs. The American Pharmaceutical Association made no recommendations.

Reasons for recommending particular programs varied but again followed the five general criteria indicated by the Advisory Committee. In some cases, recommendation was on the basis of the professional standing of the program director and the general strength of the college; records of graduates, demand for graduates were most frequent reasons for recommendation; careful work with approving agencies, good rapport with clinical facilities, and balanced programs were other reasons mentioned as bases for recommendation.

Further Definition of Recognizable Strengths Through Site Visits

The site visits confirmed the importance of the criteria enumerated by the Advisory Committee for identification of program strengths. However, the selection of groups which were asked to give recommendations made it rather inevitable that the schools visited would rate well on most of these criteria. For example, program approval bodies recommended only those schools or programs which had utilized their established checkpoints. One of the recommending groups was health facility administrators. Naturally, they recommended programs which had good involvement with them or their counterparts. Likewise, since health career program directors made recommendations, they recommended those programs which had the best public image in their region and those programs which had involved the directors of health career ventures in their planning. Some schools were recommended on the basis of their general interest in health occupational programs which had been communicated to the person making the recommendation. The one criterion which often was not present to be used was the existence of students who had finished programs since many colleges had programs which had become operational within the year. It was this latter fact which encouraged the classification schema used to describe site visits. In the field of nursing and in dental areas the recommended programs did have superior records of performance over an extended period of time. In many instances individuals who formerly had taken leadership in these areas were now playing a leadership role in relation to all health-related programs.

The most general impression from the site visits was the unevenness of the health-related programs in the sense that they are in all stages of development. Each college had some programs which had been in

existence for some time (with the exception of new colleges), some programs which had been planned but not yet put into operation, and other programs still on the drawing boards. Without exception, the colleges were interested in expanding their health offerings and reported many and varied community pressures to do so. There was also a consistent anxiety to improve programs through better recruitment, improved teaching, better clinical arrangements, or better means of evaluating student progress.

Readiness of programs and practices for dissemination. To reflect in a meaningful fashion the variation found among the colleges in their health-related programs, categorizations were established based upon a schema of the diffusion process. This point of reference was utilized in order to offer clarification of stages of readiness to aid other colleges in program planning and innovation. The assumption made by utilizing the Guba-Clark model of diffusion is that innovative programs or practices should not only be conceived, but engineered (designed for use) and institutionalized in one setting before a particular college can be helpful to other institutions. This should not imply that the innovation needs to be perfected, but only that it should be designed with sufficient practicability to be an accepted part of the college pattern and to be producing data for evaluation—in this instance, program graduates.

Health-related programs and institutions visited can be described according to readiness to aid other colleges in program planning and innovation.

1. Institutions currently performing a demonstration function for health-related programs

Miami-Dade Junior Collins would be an example of an institution which could be class, as a currently performing some demonstration functions. The evailable concerning the planning which was done to independent of the programs in the health field. Other colleges have r sea their studied attempts to design multiple programs and race consisted their campuses to observe progress and to gain F , in their own planning of new programs. Manatee Junior College, Bradenton, Florida, and Palm Beach Junior College, Lake Worth, Florida, have programs which are performing a function of planned diffusion of knowledge about those programs. Manatee Junior College, with help over a period of several years from the Kellogg Foundation and now operating with its own resources, has been performing a demonstration function for associate degree programs in nursing. There is evidence of careful planning of demonstrations and attempts to follow-up with observers. some period of time, Palm Beach Junior College has had comprehensive programs in the dental field: a dental hygiene program, a dental laboratory technician program, and a dental assisting It, too, has been used as a demonstration center by



colleges wishing to start any of these three programs. Catonsville Community College in Baltimore County, Maryland, was one of the first colleges to initiate a mental health technology program. This program has also been utilized by many other colleges. The last three colleges clearly meet the committee-established criteria for good programs. The case is more uncertain in relation to the first college system which has been consulted by other colleges concerning the initiation of multiple programs. This is because some of the programs found in that complex have not been in existence for a sufficient period of time to gather any conclusive data concerning graduates; however, Miami-Dade planned its programs in conjunction with health practitioner association standards.

2. <u>Institutions where innovative health-related programs</u> have been installed but are not yet institutionalized

The second category, those institutions with innovative programs or practices which have not yet been institutionalized but where there is apparently every intent to accept the innovation, contains more numerous examples. The City College of San Francisco, after detailed study, has designed an orthopedic assistants program. The college is committed to the program but has just initiated it as one of its curriculum offerings. The same college has also participated in the formation of a Health Professions Council for the San Francisco, California, area. While the council has indicated purposes of coordination and cooperative planning among all agencies and groups concerned with health professions, it is a voluntary movement which may flounder unless adequate financing can be found for it. Also within the City College of San Francisco, two "core" courses ([1] careers in medical health services, and [2] patient care and staff relationships) have been instituted. However, use of these courses is not sufficiently extensive to affirm the institution's commitment to a particular type of core concept in curriculum building for all health related programs.

This second category of institutions would also include the Chicago City College which has started eleven health aide programs involving fourteen weeks of teaching within the college and fourteen weeks of teaching within the hospitals. While students are at the college they all take the following core courses: Introduction to Health Occupations, Basic Science Concepts for Allied Health Workers, Nursing Arts, English for Allied Health Workers. These programs have not been in existence for a sufficient period of time to see how they may eventually be coordinated with any of the associate degree programs.

Maricopa Technical College, Phoenix, Arizona, has committed itself to the point of financing an experimental program for licensed practical nurses which would move them through the



associate degree program in nursing with approximately twelve months' work in the program. This is, however, the first year of this experimental program and it has not yet been approved by the State Board of Nursing.

Manhattan Community College in New York City has designed and initiated a medical emergency technician program but will not graduate students from this program until June of 1970. The same college has initiated a community health assistants' program which is relatively unique in design. The program provides two spin-offs after the first academic year: retardation and vocational rehabilitation. This program has been approved by the college and carefully planned with professionals but students were not admitted to the program until September of 1969. A similar curricular innovation is being proposed which would create an occupational and physical therapy combination but this has not been developed.

The Community College of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, has instituted a developmental program for 200 poorly prepared inner-city students which has math, counseling, science, English, and psychology components. Only superior teachers are used as instructors, and the program provides access to many health-related programs. While the developmental program is well conceived, its present form is not completely institutionalized. The same college has a basic support science course of six hours which integrates anatomy, physiology, and chemistry. This program is currently in wide use by all health related programs but it has not yet had adequate evaluation in reference to transferability.

Essex Community College in Baltimore County, Maryland, has designed a program for middle level hospital managers. While students have been enrolled in single courses, there is only one student who is in the process of completing the total program.

St. Petersburg Junior College in St. Petersburg, Florida, has instituted a program for health care managers which was carefully planned and initiated under federal funds but student population is low. The lack of students may prove to be a barrier to the continued existence of the program. St. Petersburg Junior College also has initiated a physical therapy assistants' program which was planned in cooperation with the state professional group. This program is staffed and thirty students have been admitted. However, the program is in its first year and thus provides no data on success of graduates.



3. Locations where there was evidence of innovativeness but where the colleges were so new that it
was difficult to tell what practices might
eventually become institutionalized

The third category includes "developing" institutions which give evidence of innovativeness but where it is difficult to predict to what degree these practices may be thoroughly institutionalized as the colleges grow.

Maricopa Technical College at Phoenix, Arizona, is currently operating with a grading system which does not include failure. Thus, students may not complete a course but they are not penalized if they wish to take the course again and eventually come to a satisfactory level of performance. Neither are they penalized by needing to achieve grades above a "C" level to compensate for "D's" and "R's" on their cumulative record. At the same college, three "cores" in nursing science are utilized by the nurse assistant program, and two of these are also used by the respiratory therapy program and by the surgical technician program. Both of these practices are indeed innovative but the technical center itself has been in existence for little more than a year.

Quinnipiac College, Hamden, Connecticut, is beginning to develop its two year health programs. The college has two core courses: (a) a health technology orientation course, and (b) a patient—care core. These are both so new, however, that evaluation is impossible. There is developing, also, strong cooperation with the Yale Medical Center. Both of these innovations are based upon a relatively strong science department in this private junior college.

Northampton Community College in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, is a new institution. While three health-related programs exist currently, the college has planned for a consistent introduction of others, there is careful planning with professionals and a full-time research person is directing attention toward consistent course evaluation and institutional research. The college has a proposal before the State Board of Nursing to admit practical nurses to second-year nursing courses.

4. <u>Institutions where innovative programs or aspects of programs had been proposed but were not yet engineered</u>

The fourth category contains programs and practices which represent proposed innovations which have not as yet been engineered. This means that a new solution to a problem has been posed by the colleges in this category but that they have not yet been able to order and systematize the components of the proposed solution. In other words, the innovation is not designed to the point that



it is possible to make judgments about institutional feasibility or generalizability.

The City College of San Francisco is represented in this category through its cooperative work with the University of California School of Public Health and the Richmond School System. The college has played a part in what could be an important health occupations recruitment project: designing a bio-medical interdisciplinary curriculum project at the high school level. This project would integrate high school academic subjects around medically related occupations and broad opportunities to explore these occupations. The plan would be patterned after the Richmond plan for pre-engineering work at the high school level. Application has been made to the National Science Foundation for financial support to engineer the program.

Maricopa Community College District of Phoenix, Arizona, has a proposed theory of core which would divide courses into smaller units at varying levels of academic challenge. This represents an innovative approach which could be applied to multiple health related programs; it is, however, still at the theory stage.

Highline Community College in Midway, Washington, has recently joined with other junior colleges in the Seattle, Washington, area for an attempted consortium directed toward the planning and allocation of health-related programs. In addition, Highline Community College has described a plan to "lattice" three programs: inhalation therapy, inhalation therapy assistant, and emergency technician. Funding is being sought also for a plan to reorganize the traditional pattern of the associate degree nursing program.

Chicago City College has plans on the drawing board for an allied health institute which would centralize a large number of health programs in a public service college which would also include a human services institute and a public services institute. This appears to be an innovative organizational plan offering additional possibilities for correlation between health-related programs and programs in other fields.

El Centro College in Dallas, Texas, has submitted for funding a proposal to train medical corpsmen as nurses. This college has an individual as a nursing education faculty member who graduated from an associate degree program at another school and had previously been a corpsman—a valuable asset in exploring the problem.

The Essex Community College of Baltimore County, Maryland, has over the past few years engaged in cooperative planning with the administration of a total medical complex which is being constructed adjacent to the community college campus. However, the 300-bed hospital, a proposed Public Health Center and Mental. Health Center, will not be completed for two years. While such



cooperative planning has been accepted by both the college and the health facility, it is not yet possible to visualize the effect of the planning upon college programs.

Jefferson State College at Birmingham, Alabama, has illustrated good use of small hospitals in the vicinity and has received strong support for its health-related programs from the community. Nevertheless, the college envisions the need for more cooperative arrangements concerning facilities since the college is in competition with its large state-supported university for clinical space.

In the St. Petersburg area, the regional medical group has asked the junior college to coordinate continuing education for health facility employees of the region. St. Petersburg Junior College anticipates the establishment of a central audiovisual system for use in the continuing education programs.

Broward Junior College in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, has developed and tested learning experience guides within its nursing program. The college is part of the Nova School complex. A proposal has been submitted for funds to extend the construction of such guides to additional parts of its nursing program. A logical extension of this effort would be the development of similar guides to individualize instruction in other health-related programs.

The University of Kentucky has an innovative organizational pattern which includes the community college system as a part of the university. The organization is clear but has not as yet produced the quality of coordination between junior college programs and university programs which should be possible through the pattern of organization.

5. Programs which had been institutionalized despite college dissatisfaction with the program design

Into the rifth category one might place the totality of x-ray technician programs housed in colleges to which site visits were made. Most of these programs have been operational within the colleges but there is considerable dissatisfaction with the program design. Most programs involve more than the usual two years. For example, City College of San Francisco has an x-ray technician program which is three years in length and has a 45 per cent attrition rate. Those completing the program have been extremely successful and it is strongly supported by chief radiologists and technologists. The total program consists, however, of 3,000 clinical hours.

College needs. During site visits the project coordinator questioned program directors and administrators about conditions under which



they could perform additional or new demonstration or dissemination functions. In each situation the needs were similar: research assistance, recovery of partial salary of individual who would coordinate demonstrations, and extra secretarial assistance to handle technical arrangements. While colleges recognized that their commitment was not binding, each school visited indicated its interest in utilizing other demonstration centers and its willingness to be utilized as a demonstration center.

Designation of Needed Health Technology Occupational Areas for Which Few or No Satisfactory Programs Are Now Available

The Guide for Health Technology Program Planning (developed and disseminated under Grant Nc. OEG-1-6-062355-1928, Project No. 6-2355) was designed around the thesis that sound health technology programs could be built in two year colleges to the extent that health practitioner associations, health facilities and colleges cooperatively planned educational programs. It was clear at that time (1967) that colleges often proceeded with program planning in those areas where medical leadership had given some indications that associate degree graduates would be welcomed and used effectively as part of the health team.

Health practitioner association assistance to the development of health technology programs may take many forms. The associations may: (1) indicate an acceptance of and need for personnel educated in two year college technical programs; (2) define program requirements to insure the maintenance of quality performance in their field; (3) assist colleges in program planning and development. They may also carry on other activities which will further the development of health technology programs in two year colleges. The Guide for Health Technology Program Planning lists thirteen potential activities of health practitioner associations which could strengthen program planning. Most of the other activities depend, however, upon these three and these are most directly connected with extending the quality and quantity of health related programs in two year colleges.

This report attempts to classify health practitioner associations according to their current activities which might contribute to any network of health-related demonstration programs in junior or community colleges. The following categories are cumulative from the first level to the sixth. Those associations listed at one of the higher levels of program diffusion potential have accomplished the tasks indicated for each previous level. This indication of level of task per cormance relates only to association activities connected with two year college technical programs. The categories used are an amplification of the three tasks above:

 Associations not accepting the need for personnel educated in two year college technical programs. Within this category



is the American Pharmaceutical Association. Undoubtedly many other groups might be listed in this same category but APA is an example of an association which, while continuing to explore all approaches to the personnel problem, has not as yet accepted the need for academic orientation of subprofessionals.

- 2. Associations which have indicated the acceptance of and need for personnel educated in two year college technical programs. This would include such groups as the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Osteopathic Association, the Society of Public Health Educators, and the National Association of Social Workers. Individual professionals and subgroups of these associations have assisted community colleges in planning some two year technical programs related to their fields. These associations have, for a great variety of reasons, not moved to the next step of accepting any defined requirements for technical programs. This makes program planning by the two year college more uncertain and probably indicates that there will be greater recruitment and placement problems.
- 3. Associations which have defined requirements for technical-level personnel. The National Committee for Careers in Medical Technology and the American Association of Junior Colleges have just published a guide for planning medical laboratory technician programs. The organizations relating to program approval and to certification of medical laboratory technicians are making increased attempts to provide comprehensive assistance to colleges. The American Dietetic Association has recently developed a two year curriculum guide in institutional food service supervision. Existing programs in junior colleges are more related to hotel management needs than to hospitals or nursing homes. The guidelines for health-related food service supervision may need reconsideration. It is for this reason that the dietetic association activities are classified within this category.
- 4. Associations which have given assistance to an experimental technical program in the two year college setting or have helped to plan several such experimental programs. This category would include such groups as the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons, the National Association of Sanitarians and the American Orthotic and Prosthetics Association. While these Associations have worked to define the general requirements for technical level personnel, the experimental programs exist to assist with the task for further delineating the problems of translating those requirements into programs.
- 5. Associations which have assisted colleges in the planning and development of pilot programs. For example, the American Physical Therapy Association, through its national and state



units, has helped a number of colleges develop pilot programs around general requirements which were defined by association action. These programs have not been in existence for a sufficient period of time to be evaluated, but evaluation machinery is available.

6. Associations which have given comprehensive assistance to college health-related technical programs. Within this grouping would be the American Medical Association, the American Dental Association, the National League for Nursing, the American Society of Medical Technologists and the American Society of Clinical Pathologists (particularly in relation to Certified Laboratory Assistant Programs and Cytotechnology programs), the American Occupational Therapy Association, the American Society of Radiological Technologists and the American College of Radiology, the American Association of Inhalation Therapists, the American Association of Medical Record Librarians, the American Association of Dental Assistants, and the American Dental Hygiene Association.

Areas represented by professional associations named within the first four classifications are those for which few or no satisfactory junior college level programs exist. As indicated in the previous section of this report, many of the programs preparing x-ray technicians (preparing technicians for this field by a host of other names) are unsatisfactory from the viewpoint of duration of the total program and often lack desired integration of clinical and academic work. Most colleges would hesitate to begin programs under present circumstances in spite of studies showing a great need for personnel. There is also a great diversity in mental health technician programs. While these programs have prospered in some states, they are noticeably absent in others in spite of great need for personnel. One factor may be the lack of any one professional association to be used by colleges as a reference point, thus making program planning a constant process of invention.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This project explored the feasibility of selecting demonstration centers and of disseminating both the process and the problem solutions used by these centers in building model health technology education programs. It was assumed that programs and practices should not only be conceived, but adequately designed for use and institutionalized in one setting before a particular college could be helpful to other institutions. Utilizing this assumption, site visits to a selected sample of colleges recommended as having strong health-related programs



revealed that their programs were in various stages of readiness to serve a demonstration function. While the sampling of recommended programs used for site visits was severely ! mited by time and funds, the Advisory Committee felt that the range of programs and practices was characteristic of those colleges building multiple programs in the health field.

The examination of network possibilities as well as selection for site visitation was limited to colleges with three or more health programs with one exception—the inclusion of a college which had served a demonstration function for associate degree programs in nursing but which had no other health technology programs. This limitation was imposed because continuing federal encouragement of multiple programs seemed probable and health manpower needs in most communities dictate that multiple programs will be a goal for most of the developing junior colleges. From the standpoint of information dissemination, it appeared most practical to consider whether or not there was a network of colleges which might provide insights concerning a range of programs.

A Base for Demonstration Activities

If the programs visited are representative of the others which were recommended, graduates are employable, colleges use established checkpoints of accrediting agencies, health facility administrators and health practitioner association members are involved in the college programs, there is interest in and dedication to occupational programs, there is flexibility in relation to new trends. Program attrition rates have various meanings because of differences in admission policies, differences in the availability of alternative programs, and because practices of "temporary" withdrawal from programs are more common among lower socioeconomic groups. The colleges are generally involved in future planning for expansion of health related programs, advisory committees are utilized well, and ideas for the improvement of programs are sought. There is typically little documentation of past program planning. Nursing area programs and dental area programs are usually the oldest, the strongest, and have the highest enrollments. Faculty from these areas have often taken the leadership in helping to develop other health related programs. Among those colleges visited, only one nursing and one dental center were classified as currently performing a demonstration function. This was a relative classification, however, and most of the institutions had associate degree nursing programs or single dental programs which could provide much assistance to other institutions beginning programs. They would merely need to make additional efforts to plan dissemination procedures. All but one of the institutions visited had plans for extending their health related program offerings, thus indicating potentially extensive use of centers which develop demonstration programs in other health areas. It should be remembered that colleges which had three or more health related programs constituted the bulk of the colleges in the sample.



Colleges or programs currently performing a demonstration function need minimal financial help to improve their dissemination activities. To relieve the growing burden of demonstration, extra secretarial assistance and reimbursement for coordination responsibilities are necessary or programs will suffer. Research assistance to help plan, document and evaluate different patterns of demonstration and dissemination would appear to be an economic use of a scarce resource.

Extension of Demonstration Function

Most impressive for the future of health manpower is the evidence that colleges are developing programs in other than the now traditional technical areas of nursing and dentistry. In the newer areas there is tremendous potential for development of the capacity to serve a dissemination function. Colleges which have begun relatively innovative health-related programs, which as yet have no program graduates, could readily be converted into valuable demonstration centers if minimal research assistance could provide better intermediate program evaluation and better documentation of the actual learning experiences of the initial group of students. The same research assistance for documentation is needed in relation to innovative practice within health related programs. This is described as minimal assistance because in these "recommended" colleges sampled through site visits, the programs and practices were installed only after extended periods of study, group decision-making and consultation. Their experience, if documented, could be of great value in speeding new program development in other colleges. Colleges which are relatively new and have a significant start on multiple health programs could make a unique contribution to understanding of the process of health-related program development in the context of total institutional development. These colleges would need more research assistance than the first group but such would again appear to be an economical means of dissemination when community or junior colleges are being created at the rate of one new college each week. Colleges which have proposed relatively innovative programs or practices have often been hampered by lack of faculty time, delays in obtaining consultation from health practitioner associations, and lack of money to design ideas for trial. instance more extensive assistance would need to be given before dissemination is practicable. In some cases help is necessary in preparing grant requests and in contacting the most logical funding source.

Where colleges have institutionalized programs despite dissatisfaction with program design, devices are necessary to ease communication between overburdened staffs of national health practitioner associations and colleges.

As a result of this investigation, it is a reasonable hypothesis that colleges with health related programs recommended by the process utilized in this study would have some programs already serving a demonstration function, more which could move to this status readily



with minimal assistance, and other program areas to which much had already been contributed but which needed greater input before the colleges could be helpful to program development in other institutions.

Extending Technical Education in Health-Related Areas

Another conclusion of this investigation is that eight areas of health practice have indicated a definite need for technical level personnel prepared at the junior college level but currently are not able to give the comprehensive assistance needed to encourage rapid development of college programs. Many health practitioner associations have available comprehensive systems of assistance but they report great difficulty in keeping up with the requests of junior colleges for advice, evaluation help, and personal consultation. The combination of these factors appears to have discouraged some colleges from approaching programs and caused planning delays of two or three years' duration in other instances. It is reasonable to assume that other professional groups not contacted in the course of this investigation will come to recognize the need for supportive personnel who could best be prepared in two year colleges. Because national health practitioner associations vary in staffing potential, state and regional organizational capabilities and past experience in this area, every device to help them contact a more limited number of "key" colleges would be welcomed and should be helpful in stepping up the contribution to two year collegiate health programs needed to overcome health personnel shortages.

There are other areas where technical assistance is not directly related to single professional groups. Mental health and environmental health are examples of such. Programs in these areas have been slow to develop despite increasing evidence of personnel needs. Some way of establishing unified basic essentials appears to be needed in order to assist colleges in program development.

The conclusions of twenty-one health professional associations and three voluntary health agencies meeting together at the National Health Council's headquarters pointed to problems which any network of demonstration centers should pioneer in solving if it wanted to make a significant contribution to health manpower personnel needs: achieving inter-professional organization cooperation, achieving inter-junior college cooperation, creating flexibility in scheduling of programs, providing greater lateral and vertical mobility, generating information on the impact of varying administrative patterns and educational philosophies. This investigation supported the point of view that individual colleges could undertake such projects only rarely. As developing institutions with growth problems and commitments to meet immediate community needs, they are daily generating data which could apply to these unanswered problems posed by the health professional associations but are currently in no position to effectively



research the relevance of the data for solutions. Solutions depend upon some additional coordinating mechanism.

One other conclusion can be drawn in relation to the feasibility of locating institutions with good demonstration potential. In the absence of hard criteria which could be self-reported by colleges, the process used in this study made available a pool of colleges which, from the site-visit sampling, had programs or program elements which could be useful in serving a demonstration function if varying amounts of input were added.

Summary and Recommendation

In summary, a good potential network of demonstration centers exists. For maximal results it requires a mechanism which could tie present innovative elements into a dissemination system. Such a system would need to provide for controlled and coordinated input to colleges and to health practitioner associations. The system should (1) provide for sharing scarce research personnel, (2) seek to help health practitioner associations extend their available services, and at the same time, (3) provide an instrumentation for disseminating information and sharing contributions to program development. For example, a network of demonstration centers in nursing could be established with relative ease, as could a smaller network of programs allied with dentistry. The value, however, of establishing such separate networks would be far less than could accrue from tying a multiplicity of health program areas into one system. A dissemination system is feasible and necessary to approach such overarching problems as the creation of more generic technical programs, improved coordination of clinical and academic aspects of all programs, development of meaningful health teams-in-training, across-the-board recruiting, and the extension of a variety of opportunities to disadvantaged students whose occupational goals may be indefinite.



APPENDIX A

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

American Association of Junior Colleges

Charles E. Chapman President Cuyahoga Community College Cleveland, Ohio

Lewis R. Fibel Executive Director Maryland State Board for Community Colleges Annapolis, Maryland

Sister Anne Joachim President St. Mary's Junior Colleges Minneapolis, Minnesota

Robert Love Chairman Division of Health Technologies State University of New York Agricultural & Technical College Alfred, New York

National Health Council

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A. N. Taylor, Committee Chairman President Chicago Medical College Chicago, Illinois

Staff

Kenneth G. Skaggs Specialist in Occupational Curricula American Association of Junior Colleges National Health Council

Levitte Mendel Associate Director



Appendix B Colleges Classified by Public Health Regions

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE REGIONS

- I. Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Verment.
- II. New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands.
- III. District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia.
- IV. Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Kentucky.
- V. Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin.
- VI. Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma
- VII. Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska.
- VIII. Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming.
 - IX. California, Arizona, Hawaii, Nevada.
 - X. Washington, Alaska, Idaho, Oregon.



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PUBLIC HEALTH REGION #5 (contd.)

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PUBLIC HEALTH REGION #6

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Public health region #7

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PUBLIC HEALTH REGION #8

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PUBLIC HEALTH REGION #8 (Contd.)

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	X-ray Tech
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GION #8 (Contd.)	Food Medical Serv Lab Rec Tech Asst Tech Tech Secy
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APPENDIX C

SITE VISIT SCHEDULE

Date	Name of College and Location
8- 6-69	Manhattan Community College, New York, N. Y.
8-11-69	St. Petersburg Junior College, St. Petersburg, Fla.
8-11-69	Manatee Junior College, Bradenton, Fla.
8-12-69	Palm Beach Junior College, Lake Worth, Fla.
8-13-69	Broward Junior College, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.
8-13-69	Miami-Dade Junior College, Miami, Fla.
8-14-69	Jefferson State Junior College, Birmingham, Ala.
8-15-69	University of Kentucky, Lexington, Ky.
8-18-69	Highline Community College, Midway, Wash.
8-19-69	Seattle Community College, Seattle, Wash.
8-20-69	City College of San Francisco, San Francisco, Calif.
8-21-69	Maricopa County Junior College, Phoenix, Ariz.
8-22-69	El Centro College, Dallas, Tex.
9- 4-69	Morton Junior College, Cicero, III.
9- 5-69	Chicago City College, Chicago, Ill.
9- 8-69	St. Louis - St. Louis County Junior College District St. Louis, Mo.



		Development	pment	Diffusion	sion		Adoption	
	Research	Invention	Design	Dissemi- nation	Demon- stration	Trial	Instaila- tion	Institutionali- Zation
Objectiv e	To advance knowledge	To formulate a new solution to an operating problem or to a class of operating ing problems, i.e., to innovate	To order and to systematize the components of the invented solution; to construct an innovation package for institutional use, i.e., to engineer	To create widespread awareness of the invention among prac- titioners, i.e., to inform	To afford an opportunity to examine and assess operating qualities of the invention, i.e., to build conviction	To build famil- iarity with the invention and provide a basis for assessing the quality, value, fit, and utility of the invention in a particular in- stitution, i.e.,	To fit the characteristics of the invention to the characteristics of the adopting institution, i.e., to operationalize	To assimilate the invention as an integral and accepted component of the system, i.e., to establish
C-iteria	Validity (Internal and ex- ternal)	Face Validity (appropriate- ness) Estimated Viability Impact (relative contribu- tion)	Institutional Feasibility Generaliza- bility Performance	Intelligibility Fidelity Pervasive- ness Impact (extent to which it affects key targets)	Credibility Conven- ience Evidential Assess- ment	Adaptability Feasibility Action	Effectiveness Efficiency 	Continuity Valuation Support
Relation to Chang e	Provides basis for invention	Produces the invention	Engineers and packages the invention	Informs about the invention	Builds conviction about the invention	Tries out the invention in the context of a particular situation	Operational- izes the in- vention for use in a specific institution	Establishes the invention as a part of an ongoing program, converts it to a "non-innovation"

Figure 3. A Classification Schema of Processes Related to and Necessary for Change in Education

Guba, E. G., & Clark, D. L. An examination of potential change roles in education. Paper read at Symposium on Innovation in Planning School Curricula sponsored by the National Education Association Committee for Study of Instruction, Airielhouse, Va., October, 1965, P. 8. Source:

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Appendix E Meeting of Voluntary Health Agencies and Associations

Report From National Health Council Invitational Meeting For Selected Member Agencies, August 8, 1969

Twenty-one health professional associations and three voluntary health agencies sent representatives to the August 8, 1969, meeting called by the National Health Council. Participants discussed the interest of their associations in technical personnel and the ways health technology demonstration centers could serve them. Discussion focused on what, in their opinion, would be most important to demonstrate.

The group established three listings. One, they labeled as necessary characteristics of proposed demonstration centers:

1) that they demonstrate good basic programs; 2) that planning with the demonstration centers should involve professional association state constituents, as well as state-wide and regional health planning agencies; 3) that centers chosen have area facilities which are across levels—high school, graduate school where possible, aide-technical-professional; 4) that centers deal with the relationship of curriculum to parameters of present and future functions; 5) that they illustrate careful selection and proper use of clinical facilities; 6) that demonstration centers have more than a "look and see" function, with the following suggested as alternatives; faculty exchange, faculty workshops, faculty participation, team teaching; 7) that they involve licensure agencies if pertinent in a locale.

The second list developed in discussion might be labeled "to be included in demonstrations if possible:" 1) analysis of how and why programs are successful; 2) a fresh look at evaluation; 3) innovations involving such items as teaching methods, a more generic program, medical corpsmen entry, increased opportunities for educational progression, and broad orientation to recruitment-retention; 4) equivalency-testing; 5) the combining of continuing education with initial preparation of students.

The third list growing out of our discussion was an enumeration of what needs to be "developed" in demonstration centers (things participants felt were not existing or currently not sufficiently developed to be useful for demonstration purposes):

1) inter-professional organization cooperation; 2) inter-junior college cooperation; 3) flexibility in scheduling or programs; 4) lateral mobility; 5) vertical mobility; 6) information on the impact of varying administrative patterns; 7) information on the impact of varying educational philosophies.

National Health Council Invitational Meeting August 8, 1969

Representative	Agency
Dr. Alfred Yankauer	American Academy of Pediatrics 1801 Hinman Avenue Evanston, Illinois 60201
Dr. Robert Cornelius	c/o American Association for Inhalation Therapy Riverside, California
Miss Laura Ann Biglow, R.R.L.	American Association of Medical Record Librarians 211 East Chicago Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60611
Ralph W. Ryan, M.D.	American Association of Ophthalmology 1100 17th Street, N.W. Washington, D. C. 20005
R. L. Matkin, D.M.D.	American Dental Association 211 East Chicago Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60611
Miss Alice H. Lutkus	American Dietetic Association 620 N. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60611
Ralph C. Kuhli	American Medical Association 535 North Dearborn Street Chicago, Illinois 60610
Dr. Eileen M. Jacobi	American Nurses' Association 10 Columbus Circle New York, N. Y. 10019
Dr. Robert Cable	American Optometric Association 7000 Chippewa Street St. Louis, Missouri



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Dr. Eileen M. Jacobi	American Nurses' Association 10 Columbus Circle New York, N. Y. 10019
Dr. Robert Cable	American Optometric Association 7000 Chippewa Street St. Louis, Missouri



Representative	Agency
Miss Audrey J. Calomino	c/o American Orthotic and Prosthetic Association 919 18th Street, N.W. Washington, D. C. 20005
Lawrence W. Mills	American Osteopathic Association 212 East Ohio Street Chicago, Illinois 60611
Jordan Braverman	American Pharmaceutical Assn. 2215 Constitution Avenue, N.W. Washington, D. C. 20037
Miss Beth Phillips	American Physical Therapy Assn. 1740 Broadway New York, New York 10019
J. L. Troupin, M.D.	American Public Health Assn. 1740 Broadway New York, New York 10019
Miss Patricia Amos	American Society of Medical Technologists c/o Schools of Laboratory Sciences University of Alabama Medical Center 619 S. 19th Street Birmingham, Ala. 35233
James Mitchell	Association of Rehabilitation Centers 7979 Old Georgetown Road Washington, D. C. 20014
Miss Ruth Moore	National Association for Mental Health 10 Columbus Circle New York New York 10019



Representative	Agency
Leslie Cowne, Ed.D.	National Association for Mental Health 10 Columbus Circle New York, New York 10019
G. Patterson, R.N.	National Association for Retarded Children 420 Lexington Avenue New York, New York 10017
Nicholas Pohlit	National Association of Sanitarians Lincoln Building, Room 208 1550 Lincoln Street Denver, Colorado 80203
John J. McHugh	President, National Association of Sanitarians Address: c/o Department of Health City of New York 125 Worth Street New York, New York 10013
Miss Margaret E. Adams	National Association of Social Workers 2 Park Avenue New York, New York 10016
Mrs. Barbara Pryor	National Committee for Careers in Medical Technology 9650 Rockville Pike Bethesda, Maryland
Miss Ann F. Oltman	National Easter Seal Society 2023 West Ogden Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60012



Representative	Agency
Miss Margery Low and Miss Joan Kaiser	National League for Nursing 10 Columbus Circle New York, New York 10019
Miss Betty J. Gardiner	Society of Public Health Educators 419 Park Avenue South New York, New York 10016



Letter of Invitation

Two years ago the National Health Council and the American Association of Junior Colleges, under a grant from the Office of Education, produced a GUIDE FOR HEALTH TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM PLANNING. Our member organizations actively participated in building the Guide which is in its second printing. Over 10,000 copies have been distributed by AAJC and NHC. It has been well received and there is evidence that it has been utilized by many junior colleges and other institutions which sponsor two year programs in the health technologies. There is also evidence that this publication has resulted in more effective working relationships among health practitioner associations, health facility administrators and colleges planning programs for the education of technician level workers in the health field.

Within the two years since publication of the <u>Guide</u>, many new health programs have been started in two-year institutions. During this period, too, a number of these colleges have contracted to provide community college courses for students enrolled in ongoing hospital-based programs. However, despite these gains to which the <u>Guide</u> contributed, there is a continuing need for additional workers in the health field and for strengthened educational preparation of personnel.

Therefore, the American Association of Junior Colleges and the National Health Council wish to maintain their joint efforts and in April, 1969, the National Health Council received a small grant from the Office of Education to make continued cooperative endeavors possible. This small grant is being used to study the feasibility of initiating "model" health technology education programs. Some of our member associations are participating in the current feasibility study either through selected representatives on the Advisory Committee or through their recommendation of out standing two-year programs with which they have had contact.

A much larger purpose is the ultimate goal of the feasibility study. If found feasible, the National Health Council and the American Association of Junior Colleges will apply for a grant to able the two organizations to initiate a network of health technology "model" or demonstration centers. Such an undertaking is intended to give impetus to further development of technical programs based upon sound consultation with health professionals and, simultaneously, to stimulate some of the action and research necessary to create functioning health career "ladders" or avenues of mobility so necessary for effective recruitment of technical personnel today.



Because of your concern with the problem of providing efficient and effective training for technician level workers, I am sure your association will wish to explore the participation you might find useful and rewarding in such a long-range demonstration project. Knowledge about the extent and degree of our members' interest will help us to determine the type of demonstration center which would be most useful and help to establish the approximate amount of government and/or foundation financial assistance most needed to make the centers a reality.

To solicit the thinking of our interested members on these issues, a meeting is being scheduled on Friday, August 8, 1969, at 10:00 A. M. in Conference Room, National Tuberculosis and Respiratory Disease Association, (16th Floor) 1740 Broadway, New York City. I hope you can arrange to have a representative of your association attend this session. Because of work-schedule deadlines on this project, this is unfortunately short notice of the meeting; however, we hope that the member of your staff who is most knowledgeable about technical level programs will be able to be present. Please let me know by August 1, on the enclosed post card, of your interest in the project and your plans for representation on August 8. Dr. Carol Kahler, who worked with the Council and the AAJC on development of the Guide, is coordinating the feasibility study and will conduct the meeting.

Sincerely,

Signed: Peter G. Meek

Executive Director

